

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An air conditioning system, comprising:

a compressor for compressing a refrigerant, the refrigerant being a compressible phase change fluid;

a condensing unit operatively connected to the compressor;

an evaporator unit and an associated expansion means operatively interconnected to the condensing unit and to the compressor, the evaporator unit being in heat exchange relationship with a supply air stream for an indoor space inside a structure, the compressor being operable to circulate the refrigerant between the condensing unit and the evaporator unit to cool the supply air stream;

a thermal energy storage unit including a tank having a thermal energy storage medium disposed therein and having an associated heat exchanger, the heat exchanger being operably connected to the compressor and evaporator;

a refrigerant circulating device for circulating refrigerant through the heat exchanger in the tank and between the tank and the condenser and evaporator;

wherein the refrigerant circulating device includes a prime mover and an auxiliary liquid which is acted upon by the prime mover, the auxiliary liquid being coupled to the refrigerant, whereby force exerted by the prime mover on the auxiliary liquid is indirectly transferred to the refrigerant[.]; and

wherein the prime mover communicates with a pair of fluid cylinders containing oil as an auxiliary fluid and wherein the prime mover exerts a motive power upon pistons located within the fluid cylinders to thereby mechanically couple the motive power of the prime mover to the refrigerant being circulated in the system.

Claim 2 (original): The air conditioning system of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary liquid has a higher relative viscosity and a lower relative vapor pressure than the refrigerant.

Claim 3 (original): The air conditioning system of claim 1, wherein the refrigerant is Freon.

Claim 4 (original): The air conditioning system of claim 1, prime mover is a positive displacement pump.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~The air conditioning system of claim 1,~~ An air conditioning system, comprising:

a compressor for compressing a refrigerant, the refrigerant being a compressible phase change fluid;

a condensing unit operatively connected to the compressor;

an evaporator unit and an associated expansion means operatively interconnected to the condensing unit and to the compressor, the evaporator unit being in heat exchange relationship with a supply air stream for an indoor space inside a structure, the compressor being operable to circulate the refrigerant between the condensing unit and the evaporator unit to cool the supply air stream;

a thermal energy storage unit including a tank having a thermal energy storage medium disposed therein and having an associated heat exchanger, the heat exchanger being operably connected to the compressor and evaporator;

a refrigerant circulating device for circulating refrigerant through the heat exchanger in the tank and between the tank and the condenser and evaporator;

wherein the refrigerant circulating device includes a prime mover and an auxiliary liquid which is acted upon by the prime mover, the auxiliary liquid being coupled to the refrigerant, whereby force exerted by the prime mover on the auxiliary liquid is indirectly transferred to the refrigerant; and

wherein the prime mover communicates with a pair of fluid cylinders containing the auxiliary fluid and wherein the prime mover exerts a motive power on a flexible bladder located within the each of the fluid cylinders to thereby couple the motive power of the prime mover to the refrigerant being circulated in the system.

Claim 7 (original): The air conditioning system of claim 1, wherein the prime mover is powered by a direct current motor and battery.

Claim 8 (original): The air conditioning system of claim 1, wherein the storage medium in the tank is water.

Claims 9- 25 (canceled)